

.NET Framework Class Library

## ListBox.DrawMode Property

[See Also](#) [Example](#)

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Gets or sets the drawing mode for the control.

**Namespace:** System.Windows.Forms

**Assembly:** System.Windows.Forms (in system.windows.forms.dll)

### ☐ Syntax

#### Visual Basic (Declaration)

```
Public Overridable Property DrawMode As DrawMode
```

#### Visual Basic (Usage)

```
Dim instance As ListBox
Dim value As DrawMode
```

```
value = instance.DrawMode
```

```
instance.DrawMode = value
```

### Property Value

One of the [DrawMode](#) values representing the mode for drawing the items of the control. The default is **DrawMode.Normal**.

### ☐ Exceptions

Exception type	Condition
<a href="#">InvalidEnumArgumentException</a>	The value assigned to the property is not a member of the <b>DrawMode</b> enumeration.
<a href="#">ArgumentException</a>	A multicolumn <a href="#">ListBox</a> cannot have a variable-sized height.

### ☐ Example

The following code example demonstrates how to create owner-drawn **ListBox** items. The code uses the **DrawMode** property to specify that the items drawn are fixed sized and the [DrawItem](#) event to perform the drawing of each item into the **ListBox**. The example code uses the properties and methods of the [DrawItemEventArgs](#) class passed as a parameter to the event handler to draw the items. This example requires that a **ListBox** control called `listBox1` has been added to a form and that the **DrawItem** event is handled by the event handler defined in the example code. The example also requires that items have been added to the **ListBox** with the text of "Apple", "Orange", and "Plum" in that order.

#### Visual Basic

```
Private Sub listBox1_DrawItem(ByVal sender As System.Object, ByVal e As System.Windows.Forms.DrawItemEventArgs)
    ' Set the DrawMode property to draw fixed sized items.
    listBox1.DrawMode = DrawMode.OwnerDrawFixed
    ' Draw the background of the ListBox control for each item.
    e.DrawBackground()
    ' Define the default color of the brush as black.
    Dim myBrush As Brush = Brushes.Black

    ' Determine the color of the brush to draw each item based on the index of the item.
```

```

Select Case (e.Index)
    Case 0
        myBrush = Brushes.Red
    Case 1
        myBrush = Brushes.Orange
    Case 2
        myBrush = Brushes.Purple
End Select

' Draw the current item text based on the current Font and the custom brush setti
e.Graphics.DrawString(ListBox1.Items(e.Index), e.Font, myBrush, New RectangleF(e.
' If the ListBox has focus, draw a focus rectangle around the selected item.
e.DrawFocusRectangle()
End Sub

```

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## Platforms

Windows 98, Windows 2000 SP4, Windows CE, Windows Millennium Edition, Windows Mobile for Pocket PC, Windows Server 2003, Windows XP Media Center Edition, Windows XP Professional x64 Edition, Windows XP SP2, Windows XP Starter Edition

The .NET Framework does not support all versions of every platform. For a list of the supported versions, see [System Requirements](#).

## Version Information

### **.NET Framework**

Supported in: 2.0, 1.1, 1.0

## See Also

### **Reference**

[ListBox Class](#)

[ListBox Members](#)

[System.Windows.Forms Namespace](#)

[DrawMode](#)

[DrawItem](#)

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